



# Offshore Norge training curriculum

Basic search and rescue course

Version no: 2

Date: 4 November 2021

## FOREWORD

This training curriculum has been compiled for course providers approved by Offshore Norge to provide the basic search and rescue course.

The training is intended to provide competence on the emergency response function for search and rescue.

In this context, competence means *the ability to perform tasks and master complex challenges*.

The contact for this training curriculum in Offshore Norge is the manager, expertise development.

Offshore Norge training curricula are owned by Offshore Norge.

See [Offshore Norge 002 Recommended guidelines for safety and emergency preparedness training](#) and requirements for safety and emergency response training.

Contents

FOREWORD ..... 2

1 INTRODUCTION ..... 4

    1.1 Purpose..... 4

    1.2 Learning outcomes ..... 4

    1.3 Target group ..... 4

2 CONTENT ..... 5

    2.1 Parameters for conducting the course..... 5

    2.2 Teaching materials..... 5

    2.3 Prior knowledge..... 5

    2.4 Facilities and equipment ..... 5

    2.5 Training curriculum..... 6

3 ASSESSMENT AND DOCUMENTATION OF TRAINING ..... 17

    3.1 Assessment..... 17

    3.2 Documentation..... 17

4 REVISIONS ..... 18

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Purpose

This training curriculum describes requirements for the content and execution of the search and rescue refresher course.

The training is designed to provide competence on:

- organisation of emergency response
- search and rescue
- use of extinguishing agents
- fire and extinguishing agent theory
- physiology
- protective equipment

### 1.2 Learning outcomes

After completing the training, the participant must be able to:

- conduct search and rescue operations with the correct equipment
- describe the organisation of emergency response on offshore facilities
- use the correct extinguishing and protective equipment to extinguish a fire
- describe the physiological burdens of search and rescue operations in hot and smoke-filled surroundings
- use protective and breathing equipment correctly and conduct safety checks of the equipment

### 1.3 Target group

The target group for the training is personnel who are to function as members of a search and rescue team.

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## 2 CONTENT

### 2.1 Parameters for conducting the course

Teaching at the course centres must reflect a good safety culture.

Theory: one instructor per 25 course participants.

Practical exercises: one instructor per five course participants.

Duration of the course is five days.

- One course day is eight hours with a minimum of six hours of effective training
- One hour is 60 minutes

A minimum of 18 hours of practical exercises.

During practical exercises, the challenges and degree of difficulty must be increased in line with the rising level of mastery.

During practical exercises, the instructor will observe and give immediate feedback, and time must be allotted for feedback and guidance after the exercise is over.

The team must be observed to ensure that it has understood the response involved, and the way risk and risk-reduction measures are handled.

### 2.2 Teaching materials

Teaching materials used during the course must be tailored to the competence objectives specified in this training curriculum.

### 2.3 Prior knowledge

Basic safety and emergency preparedness course.

Personnel with a smoke diver function in the search and rescue team must submit valid documentation that the medical examination and physical tests (fitness test and strength requirements) have been conducted. [See the Offshore Norge guidance.](#)

### 2.4 Facilities and equipment

The training can be conducted through classroom teaching, e-learning, simulator use, and use of other appropriate facilities and equipment.

Efforts must be made to use the same type of equipment found on offshore facilities.

Practical exercises should be conducted in the most realistic possible manner with regard to flames, heat and noise.

## 2.5 Training curriculum

Participants must be given an introduction before the course starts which reviews the purpose of the course, assessments, the timetable and safety measures.

See the training curriculum set out in table 1 below.

*Table 1: Training curriculum*

| Topic                                                                                             |  | 1.0 ORGANISATION OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                |                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Competence objectives<br>After completing the training, the participant will be able to:          |  | Specification of competence objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Method                         | Learning environment |
| 1.1<br>Outline a typical emergency response organisation                                          |  | The participant must be able to outline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the structure of an emergency response organisation, and explain the search and rescue team's role and responsibility in it</li> <li>the purpose of lines of command in an emergency response organisation</li> <li>other emergency response teams on the facility, their roles and responsibilities</li> </ul> | Theory lesson(s)<br>E-learning | Classroom            |
| 1.2<br>Outline the commonest behavioural patterns in emergencies, and which factors affect these. |  | The participant must be able to outline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the commonest behavioural patterns in an emergency</li> <li>examples of stress factors which could influence their own level of performance and that of others</li> <li>measures for mastering their own stress</li> </ul>                                                                                      | Theory lesson(s)<br>E-learning | Classroom            |
| 1.3<br>Outline terms and expressions related to emergency response                                |  | The participant must be able to outline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>defined situations of hazards and accidents (DSHA)</li> <li>performance requirements</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Theory lesson(s)<br>E-learning | Classroom            |

| Topic                                                                                                                  | 2.0 SEARCH AND RESCUE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                |                      |                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| Competence objectives<br>After completing the training, the participant will be able to:                               | Specification of competence objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Method                         | Learning environment | References                                                                                                                                                          |
| 2.1<br>Outline the organisation of a search and rescue team                                                            | The participant must be able to describe the team's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>responsibilities and duties</li> <li>roles: search and rescue leader, 1st person, 2nd, 3rd etc</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Theory lesson(s)<br>E-learning | Classroom            |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 2.2<br>Implement a safe and efficient response in relation to plans, preparations, methods of execution, and follow-up | <p>The participant must be able to demonstrate how the list of priorities is used:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>own safety</li> <li>save life</li> <li>limit the extent of damage</li> <li>normalisation</li> </ol> <p>The participant must be able to implement the exercise with their attention concentrated on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understanding the position</li> <li>preparing a strategy for the response</li> <li>assessing risk before and during the response</li> <li>resources required</li> <li>communication flow and forms</li> <li>securing the incident site</li> <li>learning lessons and improvement (debriefing)</li> </ul> <p>The participant must demonstrate that they perform in accordance with plans, and that the whole team acts in accordance with these.</p> | Practical exercises            | Fire drill field     | <p>The OODA loop (observe, orient, decide, act), for example</p> <p>See guidance on smoke and chemical diving, Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB)</p> |



| Topic 2.0 SEARCH AND RESCUE                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                     |                                      |            |
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| Competence objectives<br>After completing the training, the participant will be able to: | Specification of competence objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Method                                                                              | Learning environment                 | References |
| 2.3<br>Conduct search and rescue in a secure, systematic and effective manner            | <p>The participant must be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• plan the search (see section 2.1)</li> <li>• prepare and use protective and breathing equipment (see section 6.1)</li> <li>• choose the right search method for the conditions</li> <li>• conduct various forms of communication</li> <li>• conduct a simple ABC</li> <li>• pay out hoses for smoke diving (see section 3.1)</li> </ul> <p>The participant must demonstrate at least two techniques for searching efficiently for one or more injured people in a dark, smoke-filled room:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• two-person, fan, line or quartering</li> </ul> <p>The participant must be able to exercise smoke diving leadership and have control over their own personnel.</p> <p>The participant must go through the use of a smoke diver log and calculation of air consumption.</p> | <p>Practical exercises</p> <p>Must be conducted with the full team in hot smoke</p> | Fire drill field and modules for S&R |            |
| 2.4<br>The participant must demonstrate the use of rescue techniques                     | <p>The participant must demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lift and carry</li> <li>• buddy mask</li> <li>• release techniques and tools (air cushions, scissors and spreader)</li> <li>• evacuating injured people who are really heavy</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Theory lesson(s)</p> <p>Demonstration</p> <p>Practical exercises</p>             | Classroom<br>Exercise area           |            |
| Topic 2.0 SEARCH AND RESCUE                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                     |                                      |            |

| Competence objectives<br>After completing the training, the participant will be able to: | Specification of competence objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Method                                  | Learning environment | References |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| 2.5<br>The participant must outline the response under different circumstances           | The participant must be able to outline the response and use of different techniques in the event of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fire/short-circuit in electric switchboard</li> <li>• tanks</li> <li>• areas exposed to chemicals</li> <li>• areas exposed to heat/smoke/fire</li> <li>• areas exposed to gas</li> <li>• fire in battery room/</li> </ul>                                                                                                                         | Theory lesson(s)                        | Classroom            |            |
| 2.6<br>Communicate effectively within the team                                           | The participant must be able to use various forms of communication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• verbal</li> <li>• walkie-talkie</li> <li>• signing</li> <li>• confirming</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Theory lesson(s)<br>Practical exercises | Exercise area        |            |
| 2.7<br>Demonstrate lifesaving first aid                                                  | The participant must be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• use various types of stretchers</li> <li>• ensure unobstructed airways</li> <li>• prevent circulatory failure</li> <li>• demonstrate cardiopulmonary resuscitation</li> <li>• outline measures to prevent suspension trauma</li> <li>• hand over to nurse/first-aid team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ communicate the incident/energy effect and findings from patient examination</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | Demonstration<br>Practical exercises    |                      |            |

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| Topic | 2.0 SEARCH AND RESCUE |
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| Competence objectives<br>After completing the training, the participant will be able to: | Specification of competence objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Method                            | Learning environment       | References                                   |
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| 2.8<br>Outline techniques for conducting safe search and rescue                          | The participant must be able to describe: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reference points</li> <li>• escape routes</li> <li>• safeguarding retreat</li> <li>• starting to return before reserve air alert</li> <li>• moving calmly</li> <li>• good communication</li> <li>• keeping low when working in smoke-filled spaces</li> <li>• secure entry</li> <li>• function of a gas meter</li> <li>• a thermal camera</li> </ul> | Theory lesson(s)<br>Demonstration | Classroom<br>Exercise area |                                              |
| 2.9<br>Outline the fall rescue team's duties and responsibilities                        | The participant must be able to outline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• conditions where the resources can be used</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Theory lesson(s)<br>E-learning    | Classroom                  | <a href="#">Offshore Norge guideline 113</a> |

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| Topic | <b>3.0 USE OF EXTINGUISHING AGENTS</b> |
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| Competence objectives<br>After completing the training, the participant will be able to:                  | Specification of competence objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Method              | Learning environment | References                                                                               |
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| <p>3.1<br/>Use available extinguishing agents and equipment, and combine these in an effective manner</p> | <p>The participant must be able to select the correct extinguishing agent and technique:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• combined water/powder</li> <li>• foam</li> <li>• powder</li> <li>• water spraying</li> <li>• water curtain</li> <li>• CO<sub>2</sub></li> </ul> <p>The participant must demonstrate fire extinguishing with the use of water and technique for hose spraying, and be able to demonstrate normal paying out. They must also demonstrate the use of at least two other extinguishing agents.</p> <p>The participant must demonstrate cooling of equipment, structures and plant which need to be cooled/protected.</p> <p>The participant must demonstrate a safe and effective response to fire involving gas and/or liquid under pressure.</p> <p>The participant must have mastery of all positions in the team and of the available extinguishing equipment.</p> | Practical exercises | Fire drill field     | <p>Defined in the guidance to the Norwegian regulations on smoke and chemical diving</p> |

| Topic                                                                                     | 4.0 FIRE AND EXTINGUISHING AGENT THEORY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                |                      |            |
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| Competence objectives<br>After completing the training, the participant will be able to:  | Specification of competence objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Method                         | Learning environment | References |
| 4.1<br>Outline the conditions for a fire to start                                         | The participant must be able to outline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the fire triangle (including pyrolysis)</li> <li>flashpoint</li> <li>ignition temperature</li> <li>explosion area</li> <li>forms of fire spread</li> <li>classification of flammable liquids</li> </ul>                                                                                                                     | Theory lesson(s)<br>E-learning | Classroom            |            |
| 4.2<br>Outline the methods which can be used to fight a fire                              | The participant must be able to outline requirements for extinguishing a blaze on the basis of the fire triangle.<br><br>The participant must be able to outline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>different types of extinguishing agent</li> <li>different types of manual extinguishing equipment, their areas of application and their limitations</li> <li>materials and fire classes</li> </ul> | Theory lesson(s)<br>E-learning | Classroom            |            |
| 4.3<br>Outline various types of permanent fire extinguishing systems used on the facility | The participant must be able to outline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>different types of permanent extinguishing systems used</li> <li>which limitations apply for the search and rescue team when stationary extinguishing systems are activated</li> <li>methods for isolating electrical installations</li> <li>various types of active and passive fire protection</li> </ul>                 | Theory lesson(s)<br>E-learning | Classroom            |            |

| Topic 4.0 FIRE AND EXTINGUISHING AGENT THEORY                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                           |                            |            |
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| Competence objectives<br>After completing the training, the participant will be able to: | Specification of competence objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Method                                                                    | Learning environment       | References |
| 4.4<br>Outline hazards posed by fires in gas and liquids under pressure                  | The participant must be able to outline the following:<br>Relevant gases on facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• forms of storage</li> <li>• relevant causes of gas leaks</li> <li>• damage potential</li> <li>• safety arrangements</li> <li>• techniques for preventing and fighting gas fires</li> <li>• boiling liquid expanding vapour explosion (Bleve)</li> </ul> | Theory lesson(s)                                                          | Classroom                  |            |
| 4.5<br>Outline hazards posed by battery fires                                            | The participant must be able to outline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ignition temperatures and temperature development</li> <li>• explosion hazards</li> <li>• gases</li> <li>• liquids/acids</li> <li>• different battery types and dealing with these in fires</li> </ul>                                                                                                 | Theory lesson(s)                                                          | Classroom                  |            |
| 4.6<br>Outline conditions where CO <sub>2</sub> can form and the hazards of smoke diving | The participant must be able to outline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• inadequate O<sub>2</sub> supply</li> <li>• ignition temperature for CO</li> <li>• explosion area for CO</li> <li>• backdrafting and flashover</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                               | Theory lesson(s), demonstration and observation (ignition of smoke gases) | Classroom<br>Exercise area |            |
| 4.7<br>Outline various forms of fire ventilation                                         | The participant must be able to outline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• natural ventilation</li> <li>• overpressure ventilation</li> <li>• negative pressure ventilation</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                            | Theory lesson(s)<br>Demonstrations                                        | Classroom<br>Exercise area |            |

| Topic                                                                                    |  | 5.0 PHYSIOLOGY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                         |                            |
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| Competence objectives<br>After completing the training, the participant will be able to: |  | Specification of competence objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Method                                                                  | Learning environment       |
| 5.1<br>Outline the respiratory system                                                    |  | The participant must be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>describe how the respiratory system functions</li> <li>explain which respiratory technique best replaces air in the lungs</li> <li>outline acute injury/toxic effects which can arise from incorrect respirator use, and treatment of the exposed person</li> <li>describe the body's reaction to CO and CO<sub>2</sub></li> </ul> | Theory lesson(s)<br>Practical exercises<br>E-learning<br>Demonstrations | Classroom/<br>utility room |
|                                                                                          |  | The participant must be able to outline physiological reactions during smoke diving: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>physical strain</li> <li>heat effects</li> <li>smoke exposure via skin/inhalation</li> <li>stress</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                         |                            |
| 5.2<br>Describe factors which have a negative effect on the body when smoke diving       |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                         |                            |

| Topic                                                                                                                                               | 6.0 PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                    |                         |                      |
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| Competence objectives<br>After completing the training, the participant will be able to:                                                            | Specification of competence objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Method                                                             | Learning environment    | References           |
| <p>6.1<br/>Use protective and breathing equipment, and be able to conduct safety checks and emergency procedures with the aid of this equipment</p> | <p>The participant must be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>describe the difference and distinguish between full- and half-face respirators</li> <li>prepare, use and check protective and breathing air equipment</li> <li>reset protective and breathing air systems</li> <li>outline requirements for and limitations of firefighter clothing</li> </ul> <p>The participant must be able to conduct safety checks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>assembly check</li> <li>functional check</li> <li>buddy check</li> </ul> <p>The participant must be able to demonstrate the use of emergency procedures with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>loss of regulator</li> <li>closed cylinder valve</li> <li>loosened mask clips</li> </ul> | <p>Theory lesson(s)<br/>Practical exercises<br/>Demonstrations</p> | <p>Fire drill field</p> |                      |
| <p>6.2<br/>Outline protection against chemicals</p>                                                                                                 | <p>The participant must be able to outline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>protective equipment</li> <li>zone divisions</li> <li>removal</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>Theory lesson(s)<br/>E-learning</p>                             | <p>Classroom</p>        | <p>DSB on zoning</p> |



### 3 ASSESSMENT AND DOCUMENTATION OF TRAINING

#### 3.1 Assessment

The participant must be assessed during all practical exercises.

Should the participant fail the practical exercise, they must be given a reason.

On completion of the training, the participant will take a practical test.

Should the participant be assessed as falling short of the competence objectives, the participant must be failed.

#### 3.2 Documentation

A course certificate must be issued on passing the course.

## 4 REVISIONS

The following revisions have been made to this document:

| Revision:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Date:                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <p>Version no 2</p> <p><u>Section 1.1</u></p> <p>Amended bullet points in line with changes in section 2.5.</p> <p><u>Section 1.2</u></p> <p>Amended bullet points in line with changes in section 2.5. Changed “correct use of extinguishing and protective equipment” to “correct equipment” in first bullet point.</p> <p><u>Section 2.5</u></p> <p><u>Topic 2.0 Search and rescue</u></p> <p>Former topic 6.0 Search and rescue changed to topic 2.0 Search and rescue.</p> <p>Competence objective 2.2, item 3 under specification changed from “contain fire” to “limit the extent of damage”. Added new bullet point “understanding the position”. Added references.</p> <p>Competence objective 2.3 deleted “by looking for one or more injured people in a dark, smoke-filled room”. Added to second bullet point under specification. Added “one or more injured people in a dark, smoke-filled room” to second paragraph under specification. Deleted “the participant must demonstrate the use of a thermal camera for search and rescue” and “the participant must</p> | <p>4 November 2021</p> |

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| <p>demonstrate the use of rescue techniques” from specification. Deleted “with the aid of air cushion” from method.</p> <p>Competence objectives 2.4 and 2.5 added as new objectives.</p> <p>Competence objective 2.7, added sixth bullet point under specification.</p> <p>Competence objective 2.8, added ninth and 10th bullet points under specification. Added “demonstration” as method.</p> <p>Former competence objective 6.5 “Outline various forms of fire ventilation” deleted.</p> <p><u>Topic 4.0 Fire and extinguishing agent theory</u></p> <p>Former topic 2.0 Fire and extinguishing agent theory changed to topic 4.0 Fire and extinguishing agent theory.</p> <p>Competence objective 4.1 deleted seventh bullet point “function of a gas meter” under specification.</p> <p>Competence objective 4.2, improved language of second bullet point under specification.</p> <p>Competence objectives 4.5 and 4.7 added as new objectives.</p> <p><u>Topic 5.0 Physiology</u></p> <p>Former topic 4.0 Physiology changed to topic 5.0 Physiology.</p> <p>Competence objective 5.1, added “and treatment of the exposed person” to third bullet point under specification.</p> |  |
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| <p>Competence objective 5.2, added new bullet point “smoke exposure via skin/inhalation” under specification.</p> <p><u>Topic 6.0 Protective equipment</u></p> <p>Former topic 5.0 Protective equipment changed to topic 6.0 Protective equipment.</p> <p>Competence objective 6.2 added reference.</p> |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|